GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:252
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2003
REDUCTION IN ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENDITURE
BIR SING MAHATO;HARIBHAI PARTHIBHAI CHAUDHARY

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of posts ranging from the section officer to the Secretary level have been abolished in the Central Government offices;

(b) if so, the actual number of posts abolished as on date alongwith Ministry-wise details thereof;

(c) the extent to which the said move of the Government has helped in reducing its expenditure;

(d) whether more posts of class IV are being abolished as compared to Group `A` posts; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor ?

Answer

Minister of Finance & Company Affairs (Shri Jaswant Singh)

(a) to (e): A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.252 DATED 7.03.2003

Since 1992 approximately 1.73 lakh posts (including 10 Secretary level, 9 Additional Secretary level and 135 Joint Secretary level posts) have been abolished constituting a little over 4% reduction with reference to the sanctioned strength as on 1.1.1992.

Based on recommendations of the Expenditure Reforms Commission,around 13000 posts covering posts in all groups have been abolished in various Ministries/ Departments, namely, Information and Broadcasting-1424, Economic Affairs-1903, Public Enterprises-15, Supply-996, Steel-6, Petroleum and Natural Gas-17, Chemicals and Petrochemicals-624, Fertilisers-19, Mines-62, Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution-135, Agriculture & Cooperation-214, Shipping-6, Women & Child Development-175, Environment & Forests-779, Culture-12, Commerce-90, Urban Development-6411, Tourism-28, Industrial Policy and Promotion- 134. The abolition of these posts is likely to result in annual reduction of expenditure to the tune of Rs.120 crore approximately. This exercise is an ongoing feature.

Orders were also issued by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensionson 16.5.2001 restricting direct recruitment to 1/3rd of the annual direct recruitment vacancies, subject to the condition that this does not exceed 1% of the total strength of a particular Department. This order is applicable to all categories of posts and so far around 30,000 posts covering all Groups have been identified for abolition.